



## News Release

**For Immediate Release:**  
Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007

**Media Contact:**

Charla Haley

Public Information Specialist

(o) 801-538-6710 (m) 801-230-5927

After hours/weekend on call: 801-209-2591

### **Back to Business as Usual at Utah Pools**

*Public health officials lift restrictions imposed due to outbreak*

(Salt Lake City, UT) – Utah public health officials announced today that restrictions imposed in August to help curb an outbreak of cryptosporidiosis have been lifted. Since June 1<sup>st</sup>, Utah has recorded 1,912 cases of the illness that causes severe, chronic diarrhea. However, in the last three weeks, that level has dropped drastically to only six additional cases. As a result, health officials believe the public's health will not be jeopardized by lifting the extra requirements.

Pool owners are no longer required to hyperchlorinate pools and maintain higher levels of chlorine. The restriction from swimming has also been lifted for anyone who needs to wear diapers, regardless of age. And day care centers may once again include water activities in their daily routines.

However, public health officials continue to stress the importance of the public's cooperation in preventing another outbreak. Anyone who has had diarrhea should refrain from swimming for two weeks after the symptoms have ended. In addition, state and local health departments are continuing to monitor the number of cases and will coordinate additional restrictions if needed.

The state of Utah was not the only state to see an increase in cryptosporidiosis cases this year. Public health is researching ways to prevent or limit a similar outbreak next spring when swimmers return in great numbers to public pools.

For more information about cryptosporidiosis, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming/> or call your local health department.

# # #

*The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death, assuring access to affordable, quality health care, and promoting healthy lifestyles.*